

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 USIA-01 NEA-07 EUR-08 SP-02 /050 W

----- 068112

R 011100Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7904

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5720

LIMDIS

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED RHETORIC

REF: COLOMBO 3239 (NOTAL)

1. WE WISH TO COMMEND GENERALLY EXCELLENT REPORTING FROM EMBASSY COLOMBO ON RECENTLY CONCLUDED NAC. IT PROVIDED US WITH CLEAR ACCOUNT OF WHAT WAS TRANSPIRING BEHIND THE SCENES AND BETTER PERSPECTIVE FROM WHICH TO EVALUATE FLOOD OF NEWS STORIES WITH WHICH YUGOSLAV MEDIA OVERWHELMED US.

2. WE DISAGREE, HOWEVER, WITH OPINION EXPRESSED IN REFTTEL THAT "WE SHOULD SWALLOW OUR DISTASTE FOR THIRD WORLD RHETORIC..." IN VIEW OF THE AMOUNT OF RHETORIC THROWN AT US AND ITS CONSISTENTLY ODIIOUS NATURE, ESPECIALLY ON THE
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"SHOPWORN THEMES", WE WOULD NO DOUBT CHOKE TRYING TO

SWALLOW OUR DISTASTE, LWT ALONE THE RHETORIC ITSELF.
HAVING SEARCHED OUR COLLECTIVE MEMORY FOR CONSTRUCTIVE
CONTRIBUTIONS OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NON-ALIGNED, AS
A DISTINCT GROUPING, WE ARE FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT TO A
DISTURBING DEGREE RHETORIC IS THE VERY SUSTENANCE OF THE
MOVEMENT, AND ANTI-US RHETORIC AT THAT.

3. WE APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THERE IS LITTLE HOPE OF
OUR PROTESTATIONS CHANGING THE POSITIONS OR RHETORICAL
PROPENSITIES OF MANY "LEADERS" OF THE THIRD WORLD. IT
SEEMS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT RHETORIC EXERTS A CONSIDERABLE
INFLUENCE ON HOW CERTAIN OF THE NON-ALIGNED PERCEIVE
REALITY, AND, CONSEQUENTLY, ON HOW THEY CONDUCT THEMSELVES.
WE BELIEVE THAT OUR FRIENDS WITHIN THE MOVEMENT WOULD BE
SORELY DISAPPOINTED WERE WE EVER TO CEASE TO DEFEND
OURSELVES AGAINST THE MOLDY GRUEL SOME WOULD HAVE US
SWALLOW IN SILENCE.

4. RHETORIC AFTER ALL IS BUT ANOTHER WORD FOR IDEAS AND
HISTORY TELLS US THAT IDEAS UNREBUTTED HAVE A TENDENCY
TO BECOME IDEAS ACCEPTED. WE SHOULD, THEN, REBUT WITH
VIGOR, CALLING ATTENTION TO THE TOTALITARIAN NATURE OF
THE REGIMES WHICH SPONSOR MOST OFFENSIVE RHETORIC.
THE NON-ALIGNED USE RHETORIC IN PART BECAUSE IT CEMENTS
THEIR UNITY, THUS ENHANCING THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITION.
WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT OPPOSING OR COUNTERVAILING
RHETORIC SIMILARLY SERVES THE DEVELOPED DEMOCRACIES.
RHETORIC OR IDEOLOGICAL CONFRONTATION IS NOT INCONSISTENT
WITH A WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO PRACTICAL ACCOMMODATIONS.
INDEED THEY ARE BOTH PART OF A SECOND NEGOTIATING STRATEGY.
(FOREIGN MINISTER MINIC RECOGNIZED THIS WHEN HE REPORTEDLY
TOLD YUGOSLAV FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS THAT CONFRONTATION
AND COOPERATION ARE NOT MUTUALLY INCONSISTENT.) FURTHER-
MORE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUPPORT
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE THIRD
WORLD WHICH ARE RECOMMENDED BY A GOVERNMENT THAT HAS
RECOGNIZED AND PURSUED THEIR LEGITIMATE IDEOLOGICAL CONCERNS.

5. DEPARTMENT: PLEASE PASS TO OTHER NAC COLLECTIVE POSTS.
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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED OTHER NAC COLLECTIVE POSTS.

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